GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1627
ANSWERED ON:02.08.2001
RESEARCH ON CARDAMOM
PRAHLAD SINGH PATEL

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of scientists engaged in cardamom research work;

(b) the benefits accrued from the achievements in the above research work;

(c) whether the scientists conducting research in this field have ever been sent abroad;

(d) if so, the details of such visits during the last three years;

(e) whether a delegation of the Spices Board had visited Latin America during the above period;

(f) if so, the expenditure incurred thereon;

(g) whether the requisite prior approval for the visit was taken from the competent authority; and

(h) if not, the reasons therefor and the action taken thereon?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (DR. DEBENDRA PRADHAN)

(a) Forty one scientists are engaged in Cardamom research in the country.

(b) Through systematic selection and evaluation, five high yielding varieties of Cardamom have been released. Protocol for micropropagation of small cardamom and integrated pest and disease management has been worked out.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) Four scientists of Spices Board, Ministry of Commerce, Cochin were sent abroad.

(e) No research delegation of Spices Board has visited Latin America.However, a business delegation has visited Latin America during 13-22 June, 1999. The delegation was headed by Chairman, Spices Board with two exporter members.

(f) The expenditure incurred on the delegation is as follows:

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Airfare  :  Rs. 1,94,660/-
Expenditure  :  US Dollar 4786
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(g) All requisite prior approval was taken from the Ministry of Commerce.

(h) Replies given above.